REMARKS

Applicant's attorney thanks the Examiner for discussing this case in a telephone interview. Pursuant to that interview, and in accordance with the Examiner's instructions, Applicants are submitting this response to correct an error that has resulted in the wrong claims being examined.

On June 14, 2005, the Examiner issued a restriction requirement requiring Applicants to elect either the product claims 1-20 or the process claims 21-26.

On July 8, 2005, Applicant filed a response electing claims 21-26, reserving the right to file a divisional application for claims 1-20.

On August 17, 2005, Applicants filed a divisional application containing claims 1-20 (U.S. Application No. 11/205,182). The '182 application is currently pending.

On September 20, 2005, the Examiner issued another restriction requirement requiring the Applicant to elect between withdrawn claims 1-14 or 15-20. This restriction requirement was clearly in error because claims 1-20 had been previously withdrawn and subsequently presented in a divisional application.

Applicants failed to notice the PTO's error and on December 20, 2005 responded to the improper restriction requirement by electing claims 1-14.

In response to this election, the Examiner issued the outstanding Office Action that addresses claims 1-14 on the merits.

After Applicants discovered the error, Applicants' attorney contacted the Examiner and requested that the Examiner issue a new, proper, Office Action. However, as mentioned above, the Examiner requested that Applicants file a response to the outstanding Office Action and explain the error so that the Examiner could then issue a new Office Action that addressed claims 21-26.

Because the error was caused by the PTO, Applicants request that they not be charged any fees, including extension fees.

Response under 37 C.F.R. § 1.111 Application No. 10/721, 382

The USPTO is directed and authorized to charge all required fees, except for the Issue Fee and the Publication Fee, to Deposit Account No. 19-4880. Please also credit any overpayments to said Deposit Account.

Respectfully submitted,

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WASHINGTON OFFICE

23373
CUSTOMER NUMBER

Date: September 5, 2006

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